

What is claimed is

1. A medical reference device comprising:
  - a. a general purpose computer;
  - b. the general purpose computer configured with:
    1. a plurality of medical and drug information content pages;
    2. a reader application, the reader application configured to display medical and drug information content pages and to generate a plurality of parameter strings in response to user-selected medical and drug information;
    3. a drug dosing calculator application configured to receive at least one of the parameter strings generated by the reader application and to return dosing information to the reader application.
2. The medical reference device of claim 1, wherein the general purpose computer comprises a portable handheld computer.
3. The medical reference device of claim 2, wherein the portable handheld computer comprises a Palm OS device.
4. The medical reference device of claim 2, wherein the portable handheld computer comprises a Windows OS device.
5. The medical reference device of claim 1, further comprising a document manager application, configured to receive at least one of the plurality of parameter strings generated by the reader application and to provide medical and drug information content pages to the reader application.
6. The medical reference device of claim 5, wherein the document manager application further comprises a generic calculator, and wherein the document manager

application is linked to a calculator definition database and calculator look up tables to provide calculator definitions to the generic calculator.

7. The medical reference device of claim 1, wherein the parameter string sent from the reader application to the drug dosing calculator application includes drug dosing parameters corresponding to a user-selected medical condition and a user-selected drug.
8. The medical reference device of claim 1, wherein the parameter string sent from the reader application to the drug dosing calculator application includes drug dosing parameters corresponding to medical and drug information included on a selected medical and drug information content page.
9. The medical reference device of claim 1, wherein the parameter string sent from the reader application to the drug dosing calculator application comprises a plurality of parameter strings.
10. A medical reference device comprising:
  - a. a general purpose computer;
  - b. the general purpose computer configured with:
    1. a plurality of medical and drug information content pages;
    2. a reader application, the reader application configured to display medical and drug information content pages and to generate a plurality of parameter strings in response to user-selected medical and drug information;
    3. a document manager application, configured to receive the plurality of parameter strings generated by the reader application and to provide medical and drug information content pages to the reader application.

11. The medical reference device of claim 10, wherein the document manager application is configured to manage an integrated medical and drug information database, including updating and controlling access to medical and drug information content pages.
12. The medical reference device of claim 10, wherein the document manager application is configured to allow access to medical drug information content pages during the time period of a user subscription.
13. The medical reference device of claim 10, wherein the document manager application further comprises a generic calculator, and wherein the document manager application is linked to a calculator definition database and calculator look up tables to provide calculator definitions to the generic calculator.
14. A medical reference device comprising:
  - a. a general purpose handheld computer;
  - b. the general purpose handheld computer configured with:
    1. a plurality of medical and drug information content pages;
    2. a reader application, the reader application configured display medical and drug information content pages and to generate a plurality of parameter strings in response to user-selected medical and drug information;
    3. a document manager application, configured to receive the plurality of parameter strings generated by the reader application and to provide medical and drug information content pages to the reader application, wherein the document manager application further comprises a generic calculator, and wherein the document manager application is linked to a calculator definition database and calculator lookup tables to provide calculator definitions to the generic calculator;

4. a drug dosing calculator application configured to receive at least one of the parameter strings generated by the reader application and to return dosing information to the reader application; and
  5. a unit conversion calculator configured to receive at least one of the parameter strings generated by the reader application and to return converted units to the reader application.
15. The medical reference device of claim 14, wherein at least one of the plurality of parameter strings includes drug dosing parameters corresponding to medical and drug information included on a selected medical and drug information content page.
16. The medical reference device of claim 14, wherein the parameter string sent from the reader application to the drug dosing calculator application includes drug dosing parameters corresponding to a user-selected medical condition and a user-selected drug.
17. A method for calculating drug dosing using a medical reference device, comprising:
  - a. configuring the computing device with medical and drug information content pages and a drug dosing calculator;
  - b. displaying at least one medical and drug information content page on the computing device;
  - c. selecting a medical condition from a plurality of medical conditions displayed on the computing device based on observations of a patient and displayed medical information;
  - e. selecting a drug from a plurality of drugs displayed on the computing device;

f. passing drug dosing parameters corresponding to the selected medical condition and the selected drug to the drug dosing calculator; and

g. displaying a calculated drug dose.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of selecting a method of administering the selected drug and wherein the drug dosing parameters further includes parameters corresponding to the selected method of administering the drug.